



27 | the commission's electronic filing system; revising  
 28 | the deadline for disclosures to be received by the  
 29 | commission; deleting provisions relating to financial  
 30 | statements filed by mail; revising a provision  
 31 | requiring the commission to adopt a specified rule;  
 32 | requiring an individual appointed to replace an  
 33 | elected local officer who leaves office before the end  
 34 | of his or her term to file a full and public  
 35 | disclosure of financial interests annually for the  
 36 | remainder of his or her term in office; amending s.  
 37 | 112.31445, F.S.; requiring the commission to publish a  
 38 | specified notice on the electronic filing system for  
 39 | the disclosure of financial interests; requiring that  
 40 | the filing system allow a filer to include attachments  
 41 | and other supporting documentation; amending s.  
 42 | 112.31446, F.S.; requiring that the electronic filing  
 43 | system allow a filer to submit attachments and other  
 44 | supporting documentation when a disclosure is filed;  
 45 | reenacting and amending s. 112.3145, F.S.; deleting a  
 46 | prohibition on including a federal income tax return  
 47 | or copy thereof in a financial disclosure; deleting a  
 48 | provision requiring specified local officers to file  
 49 | reports with the supervisor of elections of the  
 50 | officer's county of principal employment or residence;  
 51 | requiring local officers to file their quarterly  
 52 | reports of the names of clients they represent for a

53 fee or commission with the commission; deleting a  
54 provision requiring the commission to provide a  
55 specified list to the supervisors of elections;  
56 requiring the commission to allow a filer to include  
57 attachments or other documentation when filing a  
58 disclosure; deleting a provision requiring the  
59 commission to provide the supervisors of elections a  
60 certain list annually by a specified date; requiring  
61 the commission to provide a certain notice by e-mail,  
62 beginning on a specified date; providing that,  
63 beginning on a specified date, paper forms will no  
64 longer be provided; requiring the commission, before a  
65 specified date, to determine which persons have not  
66 submitted a required statement and to send delinquency  
67 notices to such persons; requiring that disclosure  
68 statements be filed using the electronic filing  
69 system, beginning on a specified date; revising the  
70 criteria for a rule that the commission must adopt  
71 regarding the electronic filing of disclosure  
72 statements; requiring the commission to determine the  
73 amount of fines for all delinquent filers, beginning  
74 on a specified date; conforming provisions to changes  
75 made by the act; amending s. 112.317, F.S.; increasing  
76 the maximum civil penalty allowed for certain  
77 violations related to statements of financial  
78 disclosure; amending s. 112.3215, F.S.; revising

79 lobbying investigation requirements; authorizing the  
 80 commission to dismiss certain complaints and  
 81 investigations; requiring the commission to issue a  
 82 specified public report if the commission dismisses  
 83 such a complaint or investigation; amending s.  
 84 112.324, F.S.; revising applicability; requiring the  
 85 commission to revise financial disclosure forms and  
 86 rules for the 2022 filing year to conform to changes  
 87 made by the act; exempting such revisions from  
 88 specified rulemaking requirements; providing an  
 89 effective date.

90  
 91 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

92  
 93 Section 1. Subsection (5) and paragraph (a) of subsection  
 94 (7) of section 99.061, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

95 99.061 Method of qualifying for nomination or election to  
 96 federal, state, county, or district office.—

97 (5) At the time of qualifying for office, each candidate  
 98 for a constitutional office, or for another elective office  
 99 subject to an annual filing requirement pursuant to s. 112.3144,  
 100 shall file a full and public disclosure of financial interests  
 101 pursuant to s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution, which must  
 102 be verified under oath or affirmation pursuant to s.  
 103 92.525(1) (a), and a candidate for any other office, including  
 104 local elective office, shall file a statement of financial

105 | interests pursuant to s. 112.3145. A candidate who is subject to  
 106 | an annual filing requirement under s. 112.3144 may file a  
 107 | verification or receipt of electronic filing pursuant to s.  
 108 | 112.3144(4). A candidate who is subject to an annual filing  
 109 | requirement under s. 112.3145 may file a verification or receipt  
 110 | of electronic filing pursuant to s. 112.3145(2)(c) unless the  
 111 | candidate is required to file a full and public disclosure of  
 112 | financial interests pursuant to s. 8, Art. II of the State  
 113 | Constitution or this subsection.

114 | (7)(a) In order for a candidate to be qualified, the  
 115 | following items must be received by the filing officer by the  
 116 | end of the qualifying period:

117 | 1. A properly executed check drawn upon the candidate's  
 118 | campaign account payable to the person or entity as prescribed  
 119 | by the filing officer in an amount not less than the fee  
 120 | required by s. 99.092, unless the candidate obtained the  
 121 | required number of signatures on petitions pursuant to s.  
 122 | 99.095. The filing fee for a special district candidate is not  
 123 | required to be drawn upon the candidate's campaign account. If a  
 124 | candidate's check is returned by the bank for any reason, the  
 125 | filing officer shall immediately notify the candidate and the  
 126 | candidate shall have until the end of qualifying to pay the fee  
 127 | with a cashier's check purchased from funds of the campaign  
 128 | account. Failure to pay the fee as provided in this subparagraph  
 129 | shall disqualify the candidate.

130 | 2. The candidate's oath required by s. 99.021, which must

131 contain the name of the candidate as it is to appear on the  
 132 ballot; the office sought, including the district or group  
 133 number if applicable; and the signature of the candidate, which  
 134 must be verified under oath or affirmation pursuant to s.  
 135 92.525(1) (a) .

136 3. If the office sought is partisan, the written statement  
 137 of political party affiliation required by s. 99.021(1) (b); or  
 138 if the candidate is running without party affiliation for a  
 139 partisan office, the written statement required by s.  
 140 99.021(1) (c) .

141 4. The completed form for the appointment of campaign  
 142 treasurer and designation of campaign depository, as required by  
 143 s. 106.021.

144 5. The full and public disclosure or statement of  
 145 financial interests required by subsection (5). A public officer  
 146 who has filed the full and public disclosure or statement of  
 147 financial interests with the Commission on Ethics before ~~or the~~  
 148 ~~supervisor of elections prior to~~ qualifying for office may file  
 149 a copy of that disclosure or a verification or receipt of  
 150 electronic filing as provided in subsection (5) at the time of  
 151 qualifying.

152 Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section  
 153 112.3142, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

154 112.3142 Ethics training for specified constitutional  
 155 officers, elected municipal officers, and commissioners.-

156 (2)

157 (e) The Legislature intends that a constitutional officer,  
 158 a commissioner of a community redevelopment agency, or an  
 159 elected municipal officer who is required to complete ethics  
 160 training pursuant to this section receive the required training  
 161 as close as possible to the date that he or she assumes office.  
 162 A constitutional officer, a commissioner of a community  
 163 redevelopment agency, or an elected municipal officer assuming a  
 164 new office or new term of office on or before March 31 must  
 165 complete the annual training on or before December 31 of the  
 166 year in which the term of office began. A constitutional  
 167 officer, a commissioner of a community redevelopment agency, or  
 168 an elected municipal officer assuming a new office or new term  
 169 of office after March 31 is not required to complete ethics  
 170 training for the calendar year in which the term of office  
 171 began.

172 Section 3. Notwithstanding the expiration date in section  
 173 92 of chapter 2022-157, Laws of Florida, paragraph (c) of  
 174 subsection (6), paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (7), and  
 175 subsections (8) and (10) of section 112.3144, Florida Statutes,  
 176 are reenacted and amended, and paragraph (d) is added to  
 177 subsection (1) of that section, to read:

178 112.3144 Full and public disclosure of financial  
 179 interests.—

180 (1)

181 (d) Beginning January 1, 2024, the following local  
 182 officers must comply with the financial disclosure requirements

183 of s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution and this section:

184 1. Mayors.

185 2. Elected members of the governing body of a  
 186 municipality.

187 (6)

188 (c) Each separate source and amount of income which  
 189 exceeds \$1,000 must be identified. For the purpose of a filer  
 190 reporting income, the commission shall accept federal income tax  
 191 returns. If a filer submits a federal income tax return for the  
 192 purpose of reporting income, he or she must also include all  
 193 attachments and schedules associated with such federal income  
 194 tax return ~~Beginning January 1, 2023, a federal income tax~~  
 195 ~~return may not be used for purposes of reporting income, and the~~  
 196 ~~commission may not accept a federal income tax return or a copy~~  
 197 ~~thereof.~~

198 (7)(a) Beginning January 1, 2023, a filer may not include  
 199 in a filing to the commission ~~a federal income tax return or a~~  
 200 ~~copy thereof;~~ a social security number; a bank, mortgage, or  
 201 brokerage account number; a debit, charge, or credit card  
 202 number; a personal identification number; or a taxpayer  
 203 identification number. If a filer includes such information in  
 204 his or her filing, the information may be made available as part  
 205 of the official records of the commission available for public  
 206 inspection and copying unless redaction is requested by the  
 207 filer. The commission is not liable for the release of social  
 208 security numbers or bank account, debit, charge, or credit card

209 numbers included in a filing to the commission if the filer has  
 210 not requested redaction of such information.

211 (c) The commission must conspicuously post a notice, in  
 212 substantially the following form, in the instructions for the  
 213 electronic filing system specifying that:

214 1. Any filer submitting information through the electronic  
 215 filing system may not include ~~a federal income tax return or a~~  
 216 ~~copy thereof~~; a social security number; a bank, mortgage, or  
 217 brokerage account number; a debit, charge, or credit card  
 218 number; a personal identification number; or a taxpayer  
 219 identification number in any filing unless required by law.

220 2. Information submitted through the electronic filing  
 221 system may be open to public inspection and copying.

222 3. Any filer has a right to request that the commission  
 223 redact from his or her filing any social security number, bank  
 224 account number, or debit, charge, or credit card number  
 225 contained in the filing. Such request must be made in writing  
 226 and delivered to the commission. The request must specify the  
 227 information to be redacted and the specific section or sections  
 228 of the disclosure in which it was included.

229 (8) Forms or fields of information for compliance with the  
 230 full and public disclosure requirements of s. 8, Art. II of the  
 231 State Constitution must ~~shall~~ be prescribed by the commission.  
 232 The commission shall allow a filer to include attachments or  
 233 other supporting documentation when filing a disclosure. The  
 234 commission shall give notice of disclosure deadlines and

235 delinquencies and distribute forms in the following manner:

236 (a) Not later than May 1 of each year, the commission  
 237 shall prepare a current list of the names, e-mail addresses, and  
 238 physical addresses of and the offices held by every person  
 239 required to file full and public disclosure annually by s. 8,  
 240 Art. II of the State Constitution, or other state law. Each unit  
 241 of government shall assist the commission in compiling the list  
 242 by providing to the commission not later than February 1 of each  
 243 year the name, e-mail address, physical address, and name of the  
 244 office held by such person within the respective unit of  
 245 government as of December 31 of the preceding year.

246 (b) Not later than June 1 of each year, the commission  
 247 shall notify by e-mail each person required to file a full and  
 248 public disclosure of financial interests of all of the  
 249 following:

250 1. All applicable filing deadlines for completing and  
 251 filing the full and public disclosure of financial interests  
 252 prescribed under subsection (3) on the electronic filing system.

253 2. Instructions on how to complete and file the full and  
 254 public disclosure of financial interests as prescribed by  
 255 subsection (3) on the electronic filing system, or how to access  
 256 such instructions.

257  
 258 Beginning January 1, 2023, paper forms may not be provided and  
 259 each person required to file a full and public disclosure of  
 260 financial interests must complete and file his or her disclosure

261 on the electronic filing system pursuant to subsection (2)  
262 ~~distribute a copy of the form prescribed for compliance with~~  
263 ~~full and public disclosure and a notice of the filing deadline~~  
264 ~~to each person on the list. Beginning January 1, 2022, no paper~~  
265 ~~forms will be provided by mail. The notice required under this~~  
266 ~~paragraph and instructions for electronic submission must be~~  
267 ~~delivered by e-mail.~~

268 (c) Not later than August 1 of each year, the commission  
269 shall determine which persons on the list have failed to file  
270 full and public disclosure and shall send delinquency notices to  
271 such persons. Each notice must state that a grace period is in  
272 effect until September 1 of the current year. ~~Beginning January~~  
273 ~~1, 2022,~~ The notice required under this paragraph must be  
274 delivered by e-mail and must be redelivered on a weekly basis by  
275 e-mail as long as a person remains delinquent.

276 (d) Disclosures must be received by the commission not  
277 later than 11:59 5 p.m. of the due date. ~~However, any disclosure~~  
278 ~~that is postmarked by the United States Postal Service by~~  
279 ~~midnight of the due date is deemed to have been filed in a~~  
280 ~~timely manner, and a certificate of mailing obtained from and~~  
281 ~~dated by the United States Postal Service at the time of the~~  
282 ~~mailing, or a receipt from an established courier company which~~  
283 ~~bears a date on or before the due date, constitutes proof of~~  
284 ~~mailing in a timely manner.~~ Beginning January 1, 2023, upon  
285 request of the filer, the commission must provide verification  
286 to the filer that the commission has received the filed

287 disclosure.

288 (e) Beginning January 1, 2023, a written declaration, as  
 289 provided for under s. 92.525(2), accompanied by an electronic  
 290 signature satisfies the requirement that the disclosure be  
 291 sworn.

292 (f) Any person who is required to file full and public  
 293 disclosure of financial interests and whose name is on the  
 294 commission's list, and to whom notice has been sent, but who  
 295 fails to timely file is assessed a fine of \$25 per day for each  
 296 day late up to a maximum of \$1,500; however this \$1,500  
 297 limitation on automatic fines does not limit the civil penalty  
 298 that may be imposed if the statement is filed more than 60 days  
 299 after the deadline and a complaint is filed, as provided in s.  
 300 112.324. The commission must provide by rule the grounds for  
 301 waiving the fine and the procedures by which each person whose  
 302 name is on the list and who is determined to have not filed in a  
 303 timely manner will be notified of assessed fines and may appeal.  
 304 The rule must provide for and make specific that the amount of  
 305 the fine due is based upon when the disclosure is filed on the  
 306 electronic filing system created and maintained by the  
 307 commission as provided in s. 112.31446. the following:

308 ~~1. The amount of the fine due is based upon the earliest~~  
 309 ~~of the following:~~

310 ~~a. When a statement is actually received by the office.~~

311 ~~b. When the statement is postmarked.~~

312 ~~c. When the certificate of mailing is dated.~~

313 ~~d. When the receipt from an established courier company is~~  
 314 ~~dated.~~

315 ~~1.2.~~ Upon receipt of the disclosure statement or upon  
 316 accrual of the maximum penalty, whichever occurs first, the  
 317 commission shall determine the amount of the fine which is due  
 318 and shall notify the delinquent person. The notice must include  
 319 an explanation of the appeal procedure under subparagraph 2. ~~3.~~  
 320 Such fine must be paid within 30 days after the notice of  
 321 payment due is transmitted, unless appeal is made to the  
 322 commission pursuant to subparagraph 2. ~~3.~~ The moneys shall be  
 323 deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

324 ~~2.3.~~ Any reporting person may appeal or dispute a fine,  
 325 based upon unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to file  
 326 on the designated due date, and may request and is entitled to a  
 327 hearing before the commission, which may waive the fine in whole  
 328 or in part for good cause shown. Any such request must be in  
 329 writing and received by the commission within 30 days after the  
 330 notice of payment due is transmitted. In such a case, the  
 331 reporting person must, within the 30-day period, notify the  
 332 person designated to review the timeliness of reports in writing  
 333 of his or her intention to bring the matter before the  
 334 commission. For purposes of this subparagraph, "unusual  
 335 circumstances" does not include the failure to monitor an e-mail  
 336 account or failure to receive notice if the person has not  
 337 notified the commission of a change in his or her e-mail  
 338 address.

339 (g) Any person subject to the annual filing of full and  
 340 public disclosure under s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution,  
 341 or other state law, whose name is not on the commission's list  
 342 of persons required to file full and public disclosure is not  
 343 subject to the fines or penalties provided in this part for  
 344 failure to file full and public disclosure in any year in which  
 345 the omission occurred, but nevertheless is required to file the  
 346 disclosure statement.

347 (h) The notification requirements and fines of this  
 348 subsection do not apply to candidates or to the first filing  
 349 required of any person appointed to elective constitutional  
 350 office or other position required to file full and public  
 351 disclosure, unless the person's name is on the commission's  
 352 notification list and the person received notification from the  
 353 commission. The appointing official shall notify such newly  
 354 appointed person of the obligation to file full and public  
 355 disclosure by July 1. The notification requirements and fines of  
 356 this subsection do not apply to the final filing provided for in  
 357 subsection (10).

358 (i) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 120, any fine  
 359 imposed under this subsection which is not waived by final order  
 360 of the commission and which remains unpaid more than 60 days  
 361 after the notice of payment due or more than 60 days after the  
 362 commission renders a final order on the appeal must be submitted  
 363 to the Department of Financial Services as a claim, debt, or  
 364 other obligation owed to the state, and the department shall

365 assign the collection of such fine to a collection agent as  
 366 provided in s. 17.20.

367 (10) Each person required to file full and public  
 368 disclosure of financial interests shall file a final disclosure  
 369 statement within 60 days after leaving his or her public  
 370 position for the period between January 1 of the year in which  
 371 the person leaves and the last day of office or employment,  
 372 unless within the 60-day period the person takes another public  
 373 position requiring financial disclosure under s. 8, Art. II of  
 374 the State Constitution, or is otherwise required to file full  
 375 and public disclosure for the final disclosure period. The head  
 376 of the agency of each person required to file full and public  
 377 disclosure for the final disclosure period shall notify such  
 378 persons of their obligation to file the final disclosure and may  
 379 designate a person to be responsible for the notification  
 380 requirements of this subsection. When an elected local officer  
 381 specified in paragraph (1)(d) leaves office before the  
 382 expiration of his or her term, the person appointed to replace  
 383 such officer for the remainder of that term must file a full and  
 384 public disclosure of financial interests annually thereafter for  
 385 the remainder of his or her term in office.

386 Section 4. Subsections (4) and (5) are added to section  
 387 112.31445, Florida Statutes, to read:

388 112.31445 Electronic filing system; full and public  
 389 disclosure of financial interests.—

390 (4) The commission shall publish a notice on the

391 electronic filing system instructing filers to redact a social  
 392 security number; a bank, mortgage, or brokerage account number;  
 393 a debit, charge, or credit card number; a personal  
 394 identification number; or a taxpayer identification number in  
 395 their filings.

396 (5) The electronic filing system must allow a filer to  
 397 include attachments or other supporting documentation when  
 398 submitting a disclosure through the system.

399 Section 5. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (2) of  
 400 section 112.31446, Florida Statutes, to read:

401 112.31446 Electronic filing system for financial  
 402 disclosure.—

403 (2) By January 1, 2022, the commission shall procure and  
 404 test an electronic filing system. At a minimum, the electronic  
 405 filing system must:

406 (f) Allow a filer to include attachments or other  
 407 supporting documentation when submitting a disclosure or a  
 408 statement through the system.

409 Section 6. Notwithstanding the expiration date in section  
 410 95 of chapter 2022-157, Laws of Florida, paragraphs (b) and (e)  
 411 of subsection (2), paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (4), and  
 412 subsections (6) and (8) of section 112.3145, Florida Statutes,  
 413 are reenacted and amended to read:

414 112.3145 Disclosure of financial interests and clients  
 415 represented before agencies.—

416 (2)

417           (b) Each state or local officer, except local officers  
 418 specified in s. 112.3144(1)(d), and each specified state  
 419 employee shall file a statement of financial interests no later  
 420 than July 1 of each year. Each state officer, local officer, and  
 421 specified state employee shall file a final statement of  
 422 financial interests within 60 days after leaving his or her  
 423 public position for the period between January 1 of the year in  
 424 which the person leaves and the last day of office or  
 425 employment, unless within the 60-day period the person takes  
 426 another public position requiring financial disclosure under  
 427 this section or s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution or  
 428 otherwise is required to file full and public disclosure or a  
 429 statement of financial interests for the final disclosure  
 430 period. Each state or local officer who is appointed and each  
 431 specified state employee who is employed shall file a statement  
 432 of financial interests within 30 days after ~~from~~ the date of  
 433 appointment or, in the case of a specified state employee, from  
 434 the date on which the employment begins, except that any person  
 435 whose appointment is subject to confirmation by the Senate shall  
 436 file before ~~prior to~~ confirmation hearings or within 30 days  
 437 after ~~from~~ the date of appointment, whichever comes first.

438           (e) Beginning January 1, 2024, a statement of financial  
 439 interests, and ~~and~~ a final statement of financial interests and any  
 440 amendments thereto, or any other form required by this section,  
 441 except any statement of a candidate who is not subject to an  
 442 annual filing requirement, must be filed electronically through

443 an electronic filing system created and maintained by the  
444 commission as provided in s. 112.31446.

445 (4) (a) ~~Beginning January 1, 2024,~~ A filer may not include  
446 in a filing to the commission ~~a federal income tax return or a~~  
447 ~~copy of thereof;~~ a social security number; a bank, mortgage, or  
448 brokerage account number; a debit, charge, or credit card  
449 number; a personal identification number; or a taxpayer  
450 identification number. If a filer includes such information in  
451 his or her filing, the information may be made available as part  
452 of the official records of the commission available for public  
453 inspection and copying unless redaction is requested by the  
454 filer. The commission is not liable for the release of social  
455 security numbers, bank account numbers, or debit, charge, or  
456 credit card numbers included in a filing to the commission if  
457 the filer has not requested redaction of the information.

458 (c) The commission must conspicuously post a notice, in  
459 substantially the following form, in the instructions for the  
460 electronic filing system specifying that:

461 1. Any filer submitting information through the electronic  
462 filing system may not include ~~a federal income tax return or a~~  
463 ~~copy thereof;~~ a social security number; a bank, mortgage, or  
464 brokerage account number; a debit, charge, or credit card  
465 number; a personal identification number; or a taxpayer  
466 identification number in any filing unless required by law.

467 2. Information submitted through the electronic filing  
468 system may be open to public inspection and copying.

469           3. Any filer has a right to request that the commission  
 470 redact from his or her filing any social security number;~~;~~ bank  
 471 account number;~~;~~ or debit, charge, or credit card number  
 472 contained in the filing. Such request must be made in writing  
 473 and delivered to the commission. The request must specify the  
 474 information to be redacted and the specific section or sections  
 475 of the disclosure in which it was included.

476           (6) Each elected constitutional officer, state officer,  
 477 local officer, and specified state employee shall file a  
 478 quarterly report of the names of clients represented for a fee  
 479 or commission, except for appearances in ministerial matters,  
 480 before agencies at his or her level of government. For the  
 481 purposes of this part, agencies of government shall be  
 482 classified as state-level agencies or agencies below state  
 483 level. ~~Each local officer shall file such report with the~~  
 484 ~~supervisor of elections of the county in which the officer is~~  
 485 ~~principally employed or is a resident.~~ Each state officer,  
 486 elected constitutional officer, and specified state employee  
 487 shall file such report with the commission. Beginning January 1,  
 488 2024, each local officer shall file such report with the  
 489 commission. The report must ~~shall~~ be filed only when a  
 490 reportable representation is made during the calendar quarter  
 491 and must ~~shall~~ be filed no later than the last day of each  
 492 calendar quarter, for the previous calendar quarter.  
 493 Representation before any agency shall be deemed to include  
 494 representation by such officer or specified state employee or by

495 any partner or associate of the professional firm of which he or  
 496 she is a member and of which he or she has actual knowledge. For  
 497 the purposes of this subsection, the term "representation before  
 498 any agency" does not include appearances before any court or the  
 499 Deputy Chief Judge of Compensation Claims or judges of  
 500 compensation claims or representations on behalf of one's agency  
 501 in one's official capacity. Such term does not include the  
 502 preparation and filing of forms and applications merely for the  
 503 purpose of obtaining or transferring a license based on a quota  
 504 or a franchise of such agency or a license or operation permit  
 505 to engage in a profession, business, or occupation, so long as  
 506 the issuance or granting of such license, permit, or transfer  
 507 does not require substantial discretion, a variance, a special  
 508 consideration, or a certificate of public convenience and  
 509 necessity.

510 (8) Beginning January 1, 2024, forms for compliance with  
 511 the disclosure requirements of this section and a current list  
 512 of persons subject to disclosure must ~~shall~~ be created by the  
 513 commission. The commission shall allow a filer to include  
 514 attachments or other supporting documentation when filing a  
 515 disclosure. Beginning January 1, 2024, ~~and provided to each~~  
 516 ~~supervisor of elections.~~ the commission ~~and each supervisor of~~  
 517 ~~elections~~ shall give notice of disclosure deadlines, ~~and~~  
 518 delinquencies, ~~and~~ instructions ~~distribute forms~~ in the  
 519 following manner:

520 (a) ~~1.~~ Not later than May 1 of each year, the commission

521 shall prepare a current list of the names, e-mail addresses, and  
 522 physical addresses of, and the offices or positions held by,  
 523 every state officer, local officer, and specified employee. Each  
 524 unit of government shall assist the commission in compiling the  
 525 list by providing to the commission not later than February 1 of  
 526 each year the name, e-mail address, physical address, and name  
 527 of agency of, and the office or position held by, each state  
 528 officer, local officer, or specified state employee within the  
 529 respective unit of government as of December 31 of the preceding  
 530 year.

531 (b) The commission shall notify by e-mail, not later than  
 532 June 1 of each year, each person required to file a statement of  
 533 financial interests under subsection (3) of all of the  
 534 following:

535 1. Applicable filing deadlines for completing and filing  
 536 the statement on the electronic filing system.

537 2. Instructions on how to complete and file the statement  
 538 on the electronic filing system, or how to access such  
 539 instructions.

540  
 541 Beginning January 1, 2024, paper forms may not be provided and  
 542 each person required to file a statement of financial interests  
 543 must complete and file such statement on the electronic filing  
 544 system pursuant to paragraph (2) (e).

545 ~~2. Not later than May 15 of each year, the commission~~  
 546 ~~shall provide each supervisor of elections with a current list~~

547 ~~of all local officers required to file with such supervisor of~~  
548 ~~elections.~~

549 ~~(b) Not later than June 1 of each year, the commission and~~  
550 ~~each supervisor of elections, as appropriate, shall distribute a~~  
551 ~~copy of the form prescribed for compliance with subsection (3)~~  
552 ~~and a notice of all applicable disclosure forms and filing~~  
553 ~~deadlines to each person required to file a statement of~~  
554 ~~financial interests. Beginning January 1, 2024, no paper forms~~  
555 ~~will be provided. The notice required under this paragraph and~~  
556 ~~instructions for electronic submission must be delivered by e-~~  
557 ~~mail.~~

558 (c) Not later than August 1 of each year, the commission  
559 ~~and each supervisor of elections~~ shall determine which persons  
560 required to file a statement of financial interests ~~in their~~  
561 ~~respective offices~~ have failed to do so and shall send  
562 delinquency notices to these persons. Through December 31, 2023,  
563 delinquency notices must be sent by certified mail, return  
564 receipt requested. Each notice must state that a grace period is  
565 in effect until September 1 of the current year; that no  
566 investigative or disciplinary action based upon the delinquency  
567 will be taken by the agency head or commission if the statement  
568 is filed by September 1 of the current year; that, if the  
569 statement is not filed by September 1 of the current year, a  
570 fine of \$25 for each day late will be imposed, up to a maximum  
571 penalty of \$1,500; ~~for notices distributed by a supervisor of~~  
572 ~~elections, that he or she is required by law to notify the~~

573 ~~commission of the delinquency;~~ and that, if upon the filing of a  
574 sworn complaint the commission finds that the person has failed  
575 to timely file the statement within 60 days after September 1 of  
576 the current year, such person will also be subject to the  
577 penalties provided in s. 112.317. Beginning January 1, 2024,  
578 notice required under this paragraph must be delivered by e-mail  
579 and must be redelivered on a weekly basis by e-mail as long as  
580 the person remains delinquent.

581 (d) Beginning January 1, 2024, disclosure statements  
582 required to be filed with the commission must be filed by 11:59  
583 p.m. on the due date using the commission's electronic filing  
584 system as provided in s. 112.31446.

585 ~~(d) No later than November 15 of each year, the supervisor~~  
586 ~~of elections in each county shall certify to the commission a~~  
587 ~~list of the names and addresses of, and the offices or positions~~  
588 ~~held by, all persons who have failed to timely file the required~~  
589 ~~statements of financial interests. The certification must~~  
590 ~~include the earliest of the dates described in subparagraph~~  
591 ~~(g)1. The certification shall be on a form prescribed by the~~  
592 ~~commission and shall indicate whether the supervisor of~~  
593 ~~elections has provided the disclosure forms and notice as~~  
594 ~~required by this subsection to all persons named on the~~  
595 ~~delinquency list.~~

596 ~~(e) Statements must be received by the commission not~~  
597 ~~later than 5 p.m. of the due date. However, any statement that~~  
598 ~~is postmarked by the United States Postal Service by midnight of~~

599 ~~the due date is deemed to have been filed in a timely manner,~~  
 600 ~~and a certificate of mailing obtained from and dated by the~~  
 601 ~~United States Postal Service at the time of the mailing, or a~~  
 602 ~~receipt from an established courier company which bears a date~~  
 603 ~~on or before the due date, constitutes proof of mailing in a~~  
 604 ~~timely manner. Beginning January 1, 2023, upon request of the~~  
 605 ~~filer, the commission must provide verification to the filer~~  
 606 ~~that the commission has received the filed statement.~~

607 (e)~~(f)~~ Beginning January 1, 2023, the statement must be  
 608 accompanied by a declaration as provided in s. 92.525(2) and an  
 609 electronic acknowledgment thereof.

610 (f)~~(g)~~ Any person ~~who is~~ required to file a statement of  
 611 financial interests ~~and~~ whose name is on the commission's list,  
 612 and to whom notice has been sent, but who fails to timely file  
 613 is assessed a fine of \$25 per day for each day late up to a  
 614 maximum of \$1,500; however, this \$1,500 limitation on automatic  
 615 fines does not limit the civil penalty that may be imposed if  
 616 the statement is filed more than 60 days after the deadline and  
 617 a complaint is filed, as provided in s. 112.324. The commission  
 618 must provide by rule the grounds for waiving the fine and  
 619 procedures by which each person whose name is on the list and  
 620 who is determined to have not filed in a timely manner will be  
 621 notified of assessed fines and may appeal. The rule must provide  
 622 for and make specific that the amount of the fine is based upon  
 623 the date and time that the disclosure is filed on the electronic  
 624 filing system as provided in s. 112.31446. ~~the following:~~

625           1. Beginning January 1, 2024,~~The amount of the fine due is~~  
 626 ~~based upon the earliest of the following:~~  
 627           a. ~~When a statement is actually received by the office.~~  
 628           b. ~~When the statement is postmarked.~~  
 629           c. ~~When the certificate of mailing is dated.~~  
 630           d. ~~When the receipt from an established courier company is~~  
 631 ~~dated.~~  
 632           2. for a specified state employee, or a state officer, or  
 633 local officer, upon receipt of the disclosure statement by the  
 634 commission or upon accrual of the maximum penalty, whichever  
 635 occurs first, ~~and for a local officer upon receipt by the~~  
 636 ~~commission of the certification from the local officer's~~  
 637 ~~supervisor of elections pursuant to paragraph (d),~~ the  
 638 commission shall determine the amount of the fine which is due  
 639 and shall notify the delinquent person. The notice must include  
 640 an explanation of the appeal procedure under subparagraph 2. ~~3.~~  
 641 The fine must be paid within 30 days after the notice of payment  
 642 due is transmitted, unless appeal is made to the commission  
 643 pursuant to subparagraph 2. ~~3.~~ The moneys are to be deposited  
 644 into the General Revenue Fund.  
 645           2.3. Any reporting person may appeal or dispute a fine,  
 646 based upon unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to file  
 647 on the designated due date, and may request and is entitled to a  
 648 hearing before the commission, which may waive the fine in whole  
 649 or in part for good cause shown. Any such request must be in  
 650 writing and received by the commission within 30 days after the

651 notice of payment due is transmitted. In such a case, the  
652 reporting person must, within the 30-day period, notify the  
653 person designated to review the timeliness of reports in writing  
654 of his or her intention to bring the matter before the  
655 commission. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "unusual  
656 circumstances" does not include the failure to monitor an e-mail  
657 account or failure to receive notice if the person has not  
658 notified the commission of a change in his or her e-mail  
659 address.

660 (g)~~(h)~~ Any state officer, local officer, or specified  
661 employee whose name is not on the list of persons required to  
662 file an annual statement of financial interests is not subject  
663 to the penalties provided in s. 112.317 or the fine provided in  
664 this section for failure to timely file a statement of financial  
665 interests in any year in which the omission occurred, but  
666 nevertheless is required to file the disclosure statement.

667 (h)~~(i)~~ The notification requirements and fines of this  
668 subsection do not apply to candidates or to the first or final  
669 filing required of any state officer, specified employee, or  
670 local officer as provided in paragraph (2) (b).

671 (i)~~(j)~~ Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 120, any  
672 fine imposed under this subsection which is not waived by final  
673 order of the commission and which remains unpaid more than 60  
674 days after the notice of payment due or more than 60 days after  
675 the commission renders a final order on the appeal must be  
676 submitted to the Department of Financial Services as a claim,

677 debt, or other obligation owed to the state, and the department  
 678 shall assign the collection of such a fine to a collection agent  
 679 as provided in s. 17.20.

680 Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 112.317, Florida  
 681 Statutes, is amended to read:

682 112.317 Penalties.—

683 (1) Any violation of this part, including, but not limited  
 684 to, failure to file disclosures required by this part or  
 685 violation of any standard of conduct imposed by this part, or  
 686 any violation of s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution, in  
 687 addition to any criminal penalty or other civil penalty  
 688 involved, under applicable constitutional and statutory  
 689 procedures, constitutes grounds for, and may be punished by, one  
 690 or more of the following:

691 (a) In the case of a public officer:

- 692 1. Impeachment.
- 693 2. Removal from office.
- 694 3. Suspension from office.
- 695 4. Public censure and reprimand.
- 696 5. Forfeiture of no more than one-third of his or her  
 697 salary per month for no more than 12 months.
- 698 6. A civil penalty not to exceed \$20,000 ~~\$10,000~~.
- 699 7. Restitution of any pecuniary benefits received because  
 700 of the violation committed. The commission may recommend that  
 701 the restitution penalty be paid to the agency of which the  
 702 public officer was a member or to the General Revenue Fund.

703 (b) In the case of an employee or a person designated as a  
 704 public officer by this part who otherwise would be deemed to be  
 705 an employee:

- 706 1. Dismissal from employment.
- 707 2. Suspension from employment for not more than 90 days  
 708 without pay.
- 709 3. Demotion.
- 710 4. Reduction in his or her salary level.
- 711 5. Forfeiture of no more than one-third salary per month  
 712 for no more than 12 months.
- 713 6. A civil penalty not to exceed \$20,000 ~~\$10,000~~.
- 714 7. Restitution of any pecuniary benefits received because  
 715 of the violation committed. The commission may recommend that  
 716 the restitution penalty be paid to the agency by which the  
 717 public employee was employed, or of which the officer was deemed  
 718 to be an employee, or to the General Revenue Fund.
- 719 8. Public censure and reprimand.

720 (c) In the case of a candidate who violates this part or  
 721 s. 8(a) and (i), Art. II of the State Constitution:

- 722 1. Disqualification from being on the ballot.
- 723 2. Public censure.
- 724 3. Reprimand.
- 725 4. A civil penalty not to exceed \$20,000 ~~\$10,000~~.

726 (d) In the case of a former public officer or employee who  
 727 has violated a provision applicable to former officers or  
 728 employees or whose violation occurred before the officer's or

729 employee's leaving public office or employment:

730 1. Public censure and reprimand.

731 2. A civil penalty not to exceed \$20,000 ~~\$10,000~~.

732 3. Restitution of any pecuniary benefits received because  
733 of the violation committed. The commission may recommend that  
734 the restitution penalty be paid to the agency of the public  
735 officer or employee or to the General Revenue Fund.

736 (e) In the case of a person who is subject to the  
737 standards of this part, other than a lobbyist or lobbying firm  
738 under s. 112.3215 for a violation of s. 112.3215, but who is not  
739 a public officer or employee:

740 1. Public censure and reprimand.

741 2. A civil penalty not to exceed \$20,000 ~~\$10,000~~.

742 3. Restitution of any pecuniary benefits received because  
743 of the violation committed. The commission may recommend that  
744 the restitution penalty be paid to the agency of the person or  
745 to the General Revenue Fund.

746 Section 8. Paragraph (d) of subsection (8) of section  
747 112.3215, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (e),  
748 paragraph (c) of that subsection and subsection (9) are amended,  
749 and a new paragraph (d) is added to subsection (8), to read:

750 112.3215 Lobbying before the executive branch or the  
751 Constitution Revision Commission; registration and reporting;  
752 investigation by commission.—

753 (8)

754 (c) The commission shall investigate any lobbying firm,

755 lobbyist, principal, agency, officer, or employee upon receipt  
 756 of information from a sworn complaint or from a random audit of  
 757 lobbying reports indicating that the entity or person has  
 758 intentionally failed to disclose any material fact or has  
 759 knowingly submitted false information in any report required by  
 760 this section or by rules adopted pursuant to this section a  
 761 ~~possible violation other than a late-filed report.~~

762 (d) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a), (b), and (c), the  
 763 commission may dismiss any complaint or investigation resulting  
 764 from a random audit of lobbying reports at any stage of  
 765 disposition if the commission determines that the public  
 766 interest is not served by proceeding further, in which case the  
 767 commission must issue a public report stating with particularity  
 768 its reasons for the dismissal.

769 (9) If the commission finds no probable cause to believe  
 770 that a violation of this section occurred, it must ~~shall~~ dismiss  
 771 the complaint, whereupon the complaint, together with a written  
 772 statement of the findings of the investigation and a summary of  
 773 the facts, becomes ~~shall become~~ a matter of public record, and  
 774 the commission must ~~shall~~ send a copy of the complaint,  
 775 findings, and summary to the complainant and the alleged  
 776 violator. If, after investigating information from a random  
 777 audit of lobbying reports, the commission finds no probable  
 778 cause to believe that a violation of this section occurred, a  
 779 written statement of the findings of the investigation and a  
 780 summary of the facts becomes ~~shall become~~ a matter of public

781 record, and the commission must ~~shall~~ send a copy of the  
 782 findings and summary to the alleged violator. If the commission  
 783 finds probable cause to believe that a violation occurred, it  
 784 must ~~shall~~ report the results of its investigation to the  
 785 Governor and Cabinet and send a copy of the report to the  
 786 alleged violator by certified mail. Such notification and all  
 787 documents made or received in the disposition of the complaint  
 788 ~~shall then~~ become public records. Upon a request submitted to  
 789 the Governor and Cabinet in writing, any person whom the  
 790 commission finds probable cause to believe has violated ~~any~~  
 791 ~~provision of~~ this section shall be entitled to a public hearing.  
 792 Such person shall be deemed to have waived the right to a public  
 793 hearing if the request is not received within 14 days following  
 794 the mailing of the probable cause notification. However, the  
 795 Governor and Cabinet may on its own motion require a public  
 796 hearing and may conduct such further investigation as it deems  
 797 necessary.

798 Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (11) of section  
 799 112.324, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

800 112.324 Procedures on complaints of violations and  
 801 referrals; public records and meeting exemptions.—

802 (11) (a) Notwithstanding subsections (1)-(8), the  
 803 commission may dismiss any complaint or referral at any stage of  
 804 disposition if it determines that the violation that is alleged  
 805 or has occurred is a de minimis violation attributable to  
 806 inadvertent or unintentional error. In determining whether a

807 violation was de minimis, the commission shall consider whether  
 808 the interests of the public were protected despite the  
 809 violation. ~~This subsection does not apply to complaints or~~  
 810 ~~referrals pursuant to ss. 112.3144 and 112.3145.~~

811 Section 10. Upon this act becoming a law, the Commission  
 812 on Ethics shall, as necessary, revise the commission's financial  
 813 disclosure forms and instructions and any related rules to  
 814 conform to this act. Any such revisions to disclosure forms and  
 815 instructions pertaining to the 2022 filing year shall be exempt  
 816 from the requirements of chapter 120, Florida Statutes.

817 Section 11. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
 818 law.